

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 28, 1962

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Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I welcome Chairman Khrushchev's statesmanlike decision to stop building bases in Cuba, dismantling offensive weapons and returning them to the Soviet Union under United Nations verification. This is an important and constructive contribution to peace.

We shall be in touch with the Secretary General of the United Nations with respect to reciprocal measures to assure peace in the Caribbean area.

It is my earnest hope that the governments of the world can, with a solution of the Cuban crisis, turn their urgent attention to the compelling necessity for ending the arms race and reducing world tensions. This applies to the military confrontation between the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries as well as to other situations in other parts of the world where tensions lead to the wasteful diversion of resources to weapons of war.

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UPI-30

(TEXT)

WASHINGTON--TEXT OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S STATEMENT ON DISMANTLING  
OF SOVIET MISSILE BASES IN CUBA:

I WELCOME CHAIRMAN KHRUSHCHEV'S STATESMANLIKE DECISION TO STOP  
BUILDING BASES IN CUBA, DISMANTLING OFFENSIVE WEAPONS AND RETURNING  
THEM TO THE SOVIET UNION UNDER UNITED NATIONS VERIFICATION. THIS  
IS AN IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE.

WE SHALL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS WITH RESPECT TO RECIPROCAL MEASURES TO ASSURE PEACE IN THE  
CARIBBEAN AREA.

IT IS MY EARNEST HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD CAN,  
WITH A SOLUTION OF THE CUBAN CRISIS, TURN THEIR URGENT ATTENTION TO  
THE COMPELLING NECESSITY FOR ENDING THE ARMS RACE AND REDUCING  
WORLD TENSIONS. THIS APPLIES TO THE MILITARY CONFRONTATION  
BETWEEN THE WARSAW PACT AND THE NATO COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS TO  
OTHER SITUATIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD WHERE TENSIONS  
LEAD TO THE WASTED DIVERSION OF RESOURCES TO WEAPONS OF WAR.

(END TEXT)

10/28--TS1221PES

**DRAFT FOLLOWS**

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

Col. Burris -----

Put in safe. with other papers  
during Cuba crisis.

LBJ/mjdr  
2/18/63  
5 p.m.

I welcome Chairman Khrushchev's statesmanlike

decision to stop building bases in Cuba, dismantling the equipment

and sending it back home under UN supervision. This is an

important and constructive contribution to peace. I repeat my

assurance, that the United States <sup>desires peace in the Caribbean area</sup> will not invade Cuba since the

necessity for military action would disappear with the removal

of offensive weapons.

We shall be in touch with the Secretary General of the

United Nations with respect to reciprocal measures to assure

peace in the Caribbean area.

It is my earnest hope that the governments of the world

can, with a solution of the Cuban crisis, turn their urgent

attention to the compelling necessity for ending the arms race

and reducing world tensions. This applies to the military

as well as to other situations in other parts of the world where tensions lead to the diversion of resources to weapons of war.